

XXXV.—Note on the Sicilian Dormice of the Genera *Eliomys* and *Glis*. By G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON.

I HAVE recently had the pleasure of examining a small collection of Sicilian mammals presented to the British Museum by Mr. J. I. S. Whitaker. The collection includes specimens of *Pachyura etrusca* (Savi), *Mus rattus alexandrinus*, Is. Geoff., *Mus musculus spicilegus*, Chyzer, a *Muscardinus*, and of *Microtus subterraneus nebrodensis*, Minà-Palumbo, the latter subspecies very doubtfully distinct from the form found on the Italian mainland.

In the present paper, however, I wish to call attention to the Sicilian *Eliomys* and *Glis*, which are of great interest and show marked differences from the corresponding forms found in Continental Europe.

The following is a description of the *Eliomys*:—

*Eliomys pallidus*, sp. n.

Size similar to that of *E. quercinus* (Linn.), but general appearance markedly different, the upper surface being light powdery-looking grey, with only a faint trace of the rich rufous brown of *E. quercinus* on the back. The black markings of *E. quercinus* are in *E. pallidus* everywhere less intense and distinct, and, as a natural consequence of the general coloration, the grey of the upper merges with the white of the under surface rather gradually, and the very clear line of demarcation of, as well as the intermediate black zone sometimes present in, *E. quercinus* is absent.

The following are the dimensions (in millim.) of two specimens, together with those of two of *E. quercinus* for comparison:—

	Head and body.	Tail.	Hind foot.	Ear.
<i>E. pallidus</i> (type). Brit. Mus. Coll. no. 98. 10. 6. 6. ♂, Sicily, August 21, 1898 . . . .	147	103	29	24
<i>E. pallidus</i> . Brit. Mus. Coll. no. 98. 10. 6. 7. ♀, Sicily, August 18, 1898 . . . . .	124	106	28	23
<i>E. quercinus</i> . Brit. Mus. Coll. no. 95. 4. 6. 1. Spalato, Dal- matia, Jan. 26, 1895 . . . . .	145	105	25	..
<i>E. quercinus</i> . ♂, Seville, Spain, May 13, 1895 ( <i>the late</i> <i>Lord Lilford</i> ) . . . . .	150	98	26	..

I regret that I am unable to give any cranial dimensions for *E. pallidus*; the length of the upper molar crowns of a series of *E. quercinus* from Dalmatia and Seville is from 6 to 6.50 millim.

The type of *E. pallidus* is no. 98. 10. 6. 6 of the British Museum Collection.

Of *E. quercinus* the British Museum possesses specimens from France, Mürren (Switzerland), Bavaria, Thüringen (Tyrol, Austria), Dalmatia, North-west and South Spain, and Portugal; but a specimen from Tunis appears to be referable to *E. melanurus*, Wagner.

Specimens from Tangier, Morocco, agree in size with *E. mumbyanus* (Pomel), first described from Algeria, and I therefore provisionally refer them to that species, although the skins at present at my disposal are too old and faded to enable me to gain a clear idea of their original colour. This would appear, however, to be a slightly paler animal than *E. quercinus*, although not nearly so pale as *E. pallidus*. The difference in size between the two species will be appreciated by a glance at the series of cranial measurements (in millim.) given below. The skull of *E. quercinus* is very much larger than that of *E. mumbyanus*, and, in addition, the brain-case is flatter, the nasal region broader and more solid, and the nasals themselves more compressed posteriorly.

*E. mumbyanus* \*.

	Length of upper molar crowns.	Length of lower molar crowns.	Greatest length of skull.	Length of nasals (along central line).
Algiers, 1856 .....	5	5	(Damaged.)	10
B. M. Coll. no. 55.12.24.367. (Morocco.) .....	5	5	„	10
B. M. Coll. no. 48. 2. 16. 3. (Tangier.) .....	5	5	33	10

*E. quercinus*.

B. M. Coll. no. 95. 3. 3. 41. (Seville.) .....	6	6	41.50	16
B. M. Coll. no. 95. 3. 3. 19. (Seville.) .....	6	6	40.25	15.50

The only external measurements of *E. mumbyanus* which I am able to give are (in millim.) :—

	Head and body.	Tail.	Hind foot.	Ear.
B. M. Coll. no. 98. 2. 16. 3 (in alcohol) .....	100	(Damaged.)	21	17
A dried skin from Tangier .....	109	79	23	16

\* There is also in the British Museum Collection a skull (no. 94. 3. 12. 2) of *E. mumbyanus* presented by Dr. V. L. Seoane and labelled as from Cabañas, North-west Spain, but I fear there must be some mistake about this locality.

The following is the description of the Sicilian *Glis*:—

*Glis insularis*, sp. n.

In the dark colour of the body agrees with *G. italicus*, and is thus distinguishable at a glance from *G. glis*. The tail is, however, far less bushy and not quite so dark as in the former species, and the size of the animal is much smaller.

The dimensions of two specimens are as follows:—

Brit. Mus. Coll. no.	Head and body.		Hind foot.	Ear.	Length of upper molar crowns.	Length of lower molar crowns.	Length of nasals (measured along central line).
	Tail.						
98. 10. 6. 4 & 5.	160	130	28	21	7	8	11 (no. 4)
♀ ♀, Monte Aspro, near Palermo, Aug. 30, 1898 . . . . .	151	126	19	16	7·10	8	11 (no. 5)

The type is no. 98. 10. 6. 4.

The Sicilian *Glis* thus appears to be a small local development of the large dark Italian species which I have recently described\*. The skulls are unfortunately damaged, so that I am unable to give the total lengths, but they are markedly smaller and weaker than those of *G. italicus*, in which the cranial measurements corresponding to those given above have an average of (in a series of five specimens) 7·12, 8·3, 14·6 millim. A series of measurements of both *Glis glis* and *G. italicus* will be found in the Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. for November 1898, pp. 425, 426.

I am a little doubtful as to whether the Sicilian *Glis* should take specific or subspecific rank. It seems to be obviously an insular development of *G. italicus*; but, on the other hand, there are probably no intermediate and intergrading specimens between the two.

XXXVI.—*Descriptions of some new Species of Heterocera from Tropical America, Africa, and the Eastern Islands.* By HERBERT DRUCE, F.L.S. &c.

Fam. Syntomidæ.

*Phænicoprocta cubana*, sp. n.

*Male*.—Head and thorax black, spotted with metallic blue dots; antennæ black; collar and tegulæ bright orange;

\* *G. italicus*.